

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA	
COUNTY: RICHMOND (in city)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: TWENTY-NINE HUNDRED BLOCK GROVE AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT	
AND/OR HISTORIC: 	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2901, 2905, 2911, and 2915 Grove Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: RICHMOND (David E. Satterfield, III, Congressman)			
STATE VIRGINIA	CODE 51	COUNTY: (in city)	CODE 760

3. CLASSIFICATION		CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> No					
<input type="checkbox"/> Object									
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)									
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments					
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)						
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious							
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific							

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Bennett (see continuation sheet)			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2901 Grove Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: VIRGINIA	CODE 51	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: CITY HALL			
STREET AND NUMBER: 			
CITY OR TOWN: RICHMOND	STATE: VIRGINIA	CODE 51	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION SURVEY			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1972	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County
<input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress			
STREET AND NUMBER: 			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D.C.	CODE 11	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

These four, stone-fronted houses stand on the south side of Grove Avenue in the 2900 block facing the landscaped parking area and green rear lawn of the Virginia Museum. Three of these, built in the late 1890's, are in the Queen Anne style with the fourth (2901), a square stone house with some Spanish Mission features, at the eastern end of the block.

The three Queen Anne houses are similar in form and present a visually uniform front to Grove Avenue. The stone is laid in rough-faced, range masonry with finished joints. The irregular, gabled roofs with their patterned tiles are accented by the wedge-shaped, "witch-hatted" roofs on the corner projecting bays of 2905 and 2911 and the turrets with conical roofs at the corners of 2913. The backs of the houses are brick laid in American bond, painted white. The house at 2905 employs rust-colored mortar with the stone, while the others have a cream-colored mortar. Double front doors open in the corner of 2905 and 2911 and are sheltered by conical porches with Eastlake scroll work decoration. Stained glass transoms and sidelights surround the doors. The lower windows in the stony fronts in 2905 and 2911 have pediment heads with stained glass at the apex. The rest of the windows have double-hung one-over-one sash.

At 2905 and 2911, the double front doors open into a small entrance hall with a two-rung open-string stair. The massive square newel is elaborately incised, and the lattice railing has turned and carved members. A row of square vari-colored glazed tiles runs up the rake of the stair and around the well. Double sliding doors with other glass panes and a dog-wood blossom motif occur at the side and rear of the small front parlour in the projecting bay. The windows and doors have molded trim with corner blocks with a flower motif. There are fireplaces in every room with glazed colored scenic tiles. Mantels vary from those in the classic revival mode, to those framed by elongated consoles. Many of the rooms retain original brass chandeliers with crystals incised with the date, 1895.

The house at 2901 was built in 1912. It has rough-finished, ranged stone masonry on the front, and American bond brick at the rear. The low-hipped roof is covered by red Spanish tiles. A large stone porch with a round arch shelters the front door. The interior moldings are plain. There is a fireplace in the long parlour, while the rest of the house has central heating. An elevator and a stair lead to the second floor.

Other features which add to the charm of these Queen Anne houses is the row of wooden carriage houses with cupolas and gingerbread scroll work lining the alley running behind the houses and the well-trimmed lawns with their informal plantings.

GPH

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# 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☒ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal

☐ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Philosophy

☐ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

☐ Science

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Sculpture

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Social/Humanitarian

☐ Art

☐ Literature

☐ Theater

☐ Commerce

☐ Military

☐ Transportation

☐ Communications

☐ Music

☐ Conservation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The land on which these houses is located was part of the holdings of the Harvie family in the first part of the nineteenth century. Anthony Robinson bought the tract in 1847. In 1886, the land south of Grove Avenue was sold to the West End Land Improvement Company, a joint stock company headed by Major James Dooley and others. This company, and several others in Richmond, planned to sub-divide and develop the areas on the outskirts of town. This was done in many areas, but the 2900 block of Grove remains as an example as the most successful survivor of the success of the late nineteenth century Richmond West End development.

In Richmond, a city exhibiting various examples of residential and landscape architecture extending from the eighteenth through the twentieth centuries, the 2900 block of Grove is unique. Situated on a busy through-fare, the tree-shaded block manages to retain a secluded and peaceful atmosphere. This block is dominated by three fine examples of the intricate Queen Anne style; the row of carriage houses adds to the unique quality of the area.

GPH

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## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dulaney, Paul S., The Architecture of Historic Richmond  
 Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1968.

Files of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37° 33' 20"	77° 28' 35"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION STAFF</u>		DATE <u>OCTOBER, 1972</u>
ORGANIZATION <u>VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION</u>		
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building</u>		
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Richmond</u>	STATE <u>Virginia</u>	CODE <u>51</u>

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

J. R. FISHBURNE, DIRECTOR

Title VA. HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Date OCT 17 1972

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

-Date \_\_\_\_\_

TWENTY-NINE HUNDRED BLOCK GROVE AVENUE  
latitude longitude  
37°33'20" 77°28'35"  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

